



## CONSUMER COMPLAINT AGAINST A BUSINESS/CORPORATION

Please read the Information Collection, Use and Access  
notice on page 3.

**Rob Bonta**  
**Attorney General**

PUBLIC INQUIRY UNIT

(916) 210-6276 / (800) 952-5225 Toll Free - CA only

TTY/TDD (800) 735-2929 (California Relay Service)

For TTY/TDD outside California contact your state's relay service

number at <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro/trsphonebk.html>

AG Web Site: <http://www.oag.ca.gov/>

Mail Form to:

Public Inquiry Unit  
Office of the Attorney General  
P.O. Box 944255  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

### SECTION 1 - Your Information

First Name		MI	Last Name		
Mailing Address			City	State	Zip Code
County of Residence	Country, if not U.S.	Day Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	E-Mail Address	
Do you have a disability? (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Age Range (optional): <input type="checkbox"/> 12 & under <input type="checkbox"/> 13-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-19 <input type="checkbox"/> 20-29 <input type="checkbox"/> 30-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-49 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-59 <input type="checkbox"/> 60-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70-79 <input type="checkbox"/> 80 & over			
Are you a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or a dependent? (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If yes, please specify your military status: <input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty Service Member <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Spouse - Service Member <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Child/Other - Service Member <input type="checkbox"/> DoD Civilian <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Spouse - DoD Civilian <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Child/Other - DoD Civilian <input type="checkbox"/> Military Retiree/Veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve Not on Active Duty/National Guard			

### SECTION 2 - Information About Company Against Which You Are Complaining

Full Name of Company			
Mailing Address			
City	State	Zip Code	Country, if not U.S.
Company's Internet Address (URL)		E-Mail Address	
Telephone Number		Fax Number	

### SECTION 3 - Complaint Information

Product, item or service involved			
Date of Transaction		Account Number (if applicable)	
Total amount paid	Amount in dispute	How was payment made: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Debit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Wire Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
Did you sign a contract or lease? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Where was the contract signed?	Starting date	Expiration date
Date you complained to the company or individual _____ <input type="checkbox"/> By Mail <input type="checkbox"/> By Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> In Person		Person Contacted	His/Her phone number
Results			
What result would you consider fair?			
Have you contacted another agency about this? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If yes, name of agency	
Do you have an attorney in this case? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If yes, name of your attorney	Attorney's Phone Number
Has your complaint been heard or is it scheduled to be heard in court? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
If yes, where and when?			
If already heard, what was the result?			

PLEASE DESCRIBE COMPLAINT ON NEXT PAGE



## CONSUMER COMPLAINT AGAINST A BUSINESS/CORPORATION

**Rob Bonta**  
Attorney General

### SECTION 4 - Information About the Transaction

How was initial contact made between you and the business?

- ☐ Person came to my home
- ☐ I went to company's place of business
- ☐ I received a telephone call from business
- ☐ I telephoned the business
- ☐ I received information in the mail
- ☐ I responded to a radio/television ad
- ☐ I responded to a printed advertisement
- ☐ I responded to a website or e-mail solicitation
- ☐ I received a fax solicitation
- ☐ I attended a trade show or convention
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Where did the transaction take place?

- ☐ At my home
- ☐ At company's place of business
- ☐ By mail
- ☐ Over the phone
- ☐ Via computer (website or e-mail)
- ☐ Trade show or convention
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION 5 - Important Information

- If the complaint falls within the jurisdiction of another local, state or federal agency, you will be provided with appropriate referral information. In addition, the complaint may be shared with other government agencies.
- Please include copies of any supporting documents you may have, such as correspondence, contracts, invoices, receipts, etc. Do not send originals.
- This office does not have the authority to give private legal advice or provide private legal representation to individual consumers.

### SECTION 6 - Details of Complaint (use additional sheets if necessary)

### SECTION 7 - Statement

I affirm that the information herein is true and accurate, and will sign a statement if needed.

☐ YES ☐ NO

You may send this complaint to the party named. By filing this complaint, I hereby give the business complained about my consent to communicate, including disclosure of non-public personal information, with the Office of the Attorney General about any and all matters connected with this complaint.

☐ YES ☐ NO

Signature:

*DM*

Date:

Friday, March 21, 2025

*a memo from the desk of*

***Deepak Moorjani***

Ferguson & Berland P.C.  
1815 Fifth Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710

to: Michael Ferguson (California Bar No. 42797)  
cc: Office of the Alameda County District Attorney  
cc: Office of the California Attorney General  
cc: Office of the Chief Trial Counsel of the State Bar of California  
  
subject: Petitioner's Requests (4)

### **Incorporated by Reference**

1. Motion to Disqualify Attorney John Alessio and the Law Firm of Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
2. <https://tinyurl.com/michael-ferguson-twelve>

### **Attachments**

3. Email from Michael Ferguson (SBN 42797) (dated October 13, 2021).
4. Email from Benito Holguin (CSLN 1078094) and Friendly Fire Systems (January 06, 2022).
5. Notification to the Berkeley Police Department on James Maser (August 14, 2022).
6. Notification to James Maser and Jennifer Sherman (October 27, 2022).
7. Notifications to the IRS and the Franchise Tax Board (Form 3949-A)(February 10, 2025).

Deepak Moorjani (Petitioner) attaches this Supplemental Statement to the CCPA Petition to Ferguson & Berland P.C. (dated March 21, 2025). This Supplement Statement includes requests on the following: (i) Personal Data, (ii) Elder Abuse, (iii) Tax Evasion, and (iv) Signed Affidavits.

### **(i) Personal Data**

8. Petitioner requests Michael Ferguson and Ferguson & Berland P.C. to delete Petitioner's personal data from their databases.

**(ii) Elder Abuse**

9. Petitioner requests Michael Ferguson and Ferguson & Berland P.C. to authenticate the attached email from Michael Ferguson as a true and correct copy of legal advice delivered to James Maser and Maiz Holding Co. (October 13, 2021).
  - 9.1. to send confirmation to the following agencies: (a) the Office of Chief Trial Counsel of the State Bar of California; (b) the Office of Disciplinary Counsel of the Supreme Court of Ohio; (c) the Attorney Grievance Committee of the Supreme Court of the State of New York; (d) the Lucas County Prosecutor's Office; and (e) the San Diego County District Attorney's Office.
  - 9.2. to state whether Michael Ferguson (SBN 42797) is a mandatory reporter under the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (Welfare & Institutions Code § 15630).
  - 9.3. to state whether Michael Ferguson (SBN 42797) is a mandatory reporter under the State Bar of California, Rules of Professional Conduct (Rule 8.3).

**(iii) Tax Evasion**

10. Petitioner requests Michael Ferguson and Ferguson & Berland P.C. to confirm receipt of IRS Form 3949-A with the Internal Revenue Service and the Franchise Tax Board.
  - 10.1. to state whether James Maser's representations on his criminal activity (address fraud) create a reasonable basis to investigate for money laundering or tax evasion.
  - 10.2. to state whether James Maser's representation on his criminal history in drug trafficking is material to the potential investigations.
  - 10.3. to confirm knowledge that James Maser was identified as a suspect in a battery incident at the Picante Berkeley complex on December 20, 2022 (Berkeley Police Department Case No. 2022-00059494). California Penal Code Section 242 defines battery as the willful and unlawful use of force or violence upon another person.
  - 10.4. to state whether James Maser's recent activity should be construed as an attempt to coverup criminal activity.

**(iv) Signed Affidavits**

11. Petitioner requests Michael Ferguson and Ferguson & Berland P.C. to confirm that James Maser and Jennifer Sherman continue to hold the signed affidavits delivered on October 27, 2022.
  - 11.1. to confirm knowledge that these signed affidavits by Frank Forelle and Steven Adang contain evidence of criminal conspiracy and securities fraud at Deutsche Bank AG.
  - 11.2. to state whether destruction of the signed affidavits would constitute evidence tampering or obstruction of justice.
  - 11.3. to send confirmation to (i) the Office of the Alameda County District Attorney and (ii) the Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement.

**Exhibit: Statement by Nancy Yamaguchi (California Bar No. #213143)**

“Hi Kenji -- hope you are doing well. I've been busy going back and forth between Europe and Silicon Valley lately, and I've been spending a lot of time in London and Frankfurt. Too bad my new job does not take me to Japan. Most of the work has been in Europe. I'm enjoying the new job and feel that my decision to leave Jones Day was a good one. Recently, I was promoted to be the senior M&A lawyer for my company, and it has been great working closely with the executives as well as various outside counsel. At Jones Day, my mentors were the partners that I worked for, but at my current job, the Chief Legal Officer is an amazingly gifted lawyer and I have the chance to work with top partners at many different law firms.

Are you still at Deutsche Bank? It seems like a great opportunity, and I hope that you are having fun. It's great that you are helping Deepak there. He is a successful venture capitalist in Silicon Valley and well-connected international business player. At some point, I expect that he will be back in California and restart his venture capital/private equity and M&A practice. He is a very smart guy and will be an important technology leader and dealmaker, so I'm sure he will remember your supporting him at Deutsche Bank. You should also continue building the relationship with Deepak because you may want to work with him in Silicon Valley or other international markets in the future. I would be excited to see both you and Deepak here in California.

I also want to congratulate you for upholding justice and acting with utmost professional integrity. It is essential that international lawyers like you and me do the right thing. Now that I am inside a company, I am frequently preventing business people from doing what they want, but I have a professional and ethical duty to force them to take legal compliance seriously, and it can get difficult sometimes. I believe that in the end, justice will always prevail and wrongdoers eventually fall -- a good example is Enron and all of the executives and investment bankers who are now going to jail and whose careers are ruined for life. I personally saw a lot of this happening when I worked on a SEC investigation of certain accounting practices at telecommunication/Internet companies. It was alarming to see many lawyers and accountants lose their jobs and careers, but also the civil and criminal penalties were severe.

As lawyers, our first and foremost professional obligation is to advise business people to follow the law and to act in a fair and just manner. Legal compliance is not always easy, but that is our job and we chose to become lawyers. If we take the easy road and simply follow the business people's desires, we would fail as lawyers and have no choice but to resign. Such professional failure would also result in losing the license to practice law or disbarment, and definitely a loss of professional credibility and careers. In any case, I'm glad to see that you are doing the right thing by helping Deepak and please continue to help him -- of course, it is your professional duty as a lawyer, but I also want you to know that I appreciate and respect you for it.”

.....

## Jim Maser

---

**From:** profferg <profferg@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:15 PM  
**To:** Jim Maser  
**Subject:** Re: referral

Hi Jim. It's great to hear from you, as always. It would be great to see you again. We're leaving 10/20 for 3 weeks in Italy, but will be back 11/12--so anytime after that.

Re: your friends: the first thing to do is to report the situation to Adult Protective Services in the County in which the parents live. Here are the links for Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, respectively:

<https://www.alamedacountysocialservices.org/our-services/Abuse-and-Protection/adult-and-senior-abuse/index>

<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/914/Adult-Protective-Services>

Re an attorney to help: I'd suggest you contact Kathryn Korn in Orinda. Here's the link to her website:

<https://www.kornlawgroup.com/>

I hope this helps. Let me know if you have other questions.

Warmest regards, Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Maser <Jim.Maser@picanteberkeley.com>  
To: profferg <profferg@aol.com>  
Sent: Wed, Oct 13, 2021 6:28 am  
Subject: referral

Hey Mike,

Hope all is well with you and your family.

I am beginning to remodel Picante today. Not sure how all this will roll out.

Do you have a referral for a lawyer who specializes in elder care abuse?  
Parents I know have kids who are bad actors, and they need help.

Thanks, and I hope it's sooner than later that I see you again.

Best,  
Jim

## Jim Maser

---

**From:** Benito Holguin <benito@friendlyfiresystems.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 6, 2022 10:37 PM  
**To:** Jim Maser; Hector Salazar  
**Subject:** Picante look ahead schedule

Nice talking to you guys yesterday. It looks like it was a very productive meeting and it helped us understand some additional details.

Just to capture the sone of the meeting discussion/path to completion see below and please add anything that I have not mentioned.

Kitchen - early start, starting Wednesday January 12th. - January 18th (3am - 7am)

Also, we forgot to look in the sink/storage room between the bathroom hall ways and kitchen where the ceiling is currently falling. Need to know how to remove or cut it out. Hector and Martin can discuss this prior to the 12th?

Dee's Apartment - Wednesday January 19th - Friday January 21st (9am-3pm)  
(Tentatively Jim talking/confirming with him)

Jim's apartment - Monday January 24th - Saturday January 29th  
(we plan to start work sooner depending on the progress on the two areas motioned above)

We will follow with the installation of the sprinkler risers under the stairs and plan on having pressure on the entire system and ready for inspection the week of January 31st.

Thank you!

*Benito Holguin*

**FRIENDLY FIRE SYSTEMS** 

Design, Installation, & Inspection Services

Cell: (925) 383-0156

Office: 1 (888) 345-8889

[www.friendlyfiresystems.com](http://www.friendlyfiresystems.com)

CL6- Contractor

State License Number #1078094

### CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

The information contained in this message may be proprietary, confidential or trade secret and may be legally privileged. The message is intended solely for the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, disclosure or reproduction is strictly prohibited and may be a violation of law. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by return e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message.

Sunday, August 14, 2022

Berkeley Police Department  
2100 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704

On August 02, 2022 (two-day advance), James Maser provided notice of a 15-day eviction beginning on August 04, 2022. Previously, James Maser informed me that he would require my absence for only 5 days. I did not feel that I had a choice, because James Maser wants to finish his remodeling project. On August 05, 2022, Jim Maser stated, "I don't want to have to throw your sh1t outside."

I would like James Maser's contractors to vacate my apartment immediately. James Maser should not have attempted to complete a major, 15-day remodeling job in an occupied apartment. Instead, James Maser should have waited until the apartment was vacant. Based on his actions, James Maser has demonstrated that he does not value my presence, and I expect to vacate the apartment prior to the end of 2022. James Maser should complete his major remodeling work when the apartment is vacant.

I think James Maser is a good man, and I have become fond of him; however, I think he has demonstrated poor behavior in order to finish his remodeling work. Also, I think James Maser has statutory obligations, and I think I have contractual rights.

James Maser and his contractors have violated my terms of entry including (i) my health and safety protocols (i.e. no shoes, mandatory masks) and (ii) my security protocols (i.e. locked premises).

After numerous violations, I posted Terms of Entry on Sunday, August 07, 2022 which stated "Violators will be trespassing. Violators will be required to leave the premises."

On Sunday, August 07, 2022 at 8:11pm, James Maser sent a message stating, "Please come by at 7am tomorrow. Thanks." James Maser should have sent a request, and I think the tone and the content of his message was inappropriate.

On Monday, August 08, 2022, James Maser mischaracterized my Terms of Entry as "aggressive," and he forced me to remove the Terms of Entry from my front door. During our conversation, James Maser stated (approximately): "I rent this place to you. We have a contract. Our agreement is clear. You cannot speak with my contractors directly."

Also, James Maser questioned my Health and Safety Protocols; however, he requires employees at Picante Berkeley to wear a mask. Finally, James Maser agreed to comply with my Terms of Entry, and he stated, "I promise."

- Violations of Healthy and Safety Protocols: On August 08, 2022, James Maser confirmed that he inspected my bedroom and my bathroom. I would like him to confirm that he entered without removing his shoes, despite (i) the signage on the door ("No shoes please") since mid-July, (ii) my message to him on Saturday, August 06, 2022 and (ii) the Terms of Entry posted on Sunday, August 07, 2022.
- Violations of Healthy and Safety Protocols: On Thursday, August 11, 2022, I met with Jim Maser's contractors to discuss moving my personal belongings. His contractors were neither wearing masks nor wearing booties. Also, James Maser told his contractors that they could leave the windows open at night, but I told them to close the windows upon departing (Note: This violates the Security Protocol).
- Violation of Security Protocols: On Saturday, August 13, 2022, I visited my apartment, but my front door was unlocked - and the key was in the keyhole. Previously, James Maser stated that he would leave the front door unlocked, because he did not have a key. I informed him that this would be unacceptable, and I gave him a key - on approximately August 04, 2022 - to the front door with the stipulation that my front door would be locked when his contractors were absent. I would like James Maser to confirm that he has left the front door unlocked for the entire week, and I want James Maser to indemnify me for any loss.

*a memo from the desk of*  
***Deepak Moorjani***

*Thursday, October 27, 2022*

to: Jennifer W. Sherman, The Edible Schoolyard Project

to: James Maser, Picante Berkeley

cc: Alex Wynaendts, Deutsche Bank

cc: Julia R. Bates, Lucas County Prosecutor

cc: Laura Waters Maser

cc: Summer Stephan, San Diego County District Attorney

subject: Signed Affidavits

This package includes signed affidavits by Frank Forelle (Deutsche Bank) and Steve Adang (Deutsche Bank), and these signed affidavits contain admissions of criminal activity at Deutsche Bank.

Please confirm your possession of these signed affidavits with Alex Wynaendts of Deutsche Bank by November 30, 2022.

Thank you for your kind attention.

.....

**Information Referral**

(See instructions on reverse)

Use this form to report suspected tax law violations by a person or a business.

**CAUTION: READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM. There may be other more appropriate forms specific to your complaint. (For example, if you suspect your identity was stolen, use [Form 14039](#).)****Section A – Information About the Person or Business You Are Reporting**Complete 1, if you are reporting an Individual. Complete 2, if you are reporting a business only. Complete 1 and 2 if you are reporting a business and its owner.  
(Leave blank any lines you do not know.)

1a. Name of individual		b. Social Security Number/TIN		c. Date of birth	
d. Street address		e. City		f. State	g. ZIP code
h. Occupation		i. Email address			
j. Marital status (check one, if known) <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Head of Household <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Separated				k. Name of spouse	
2a. Name of business		b. Employer Tax ID number (EIN)		c. Telephone number	
d. Street address		e. City		f. State	g. ZIP code
h. Email address		i. Website			

**Section B – Describe the Alleged Violation of Income Tax Law**

3. Alleged violation of income tax law. (Check all that apply.)

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> False Exemption  | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsubstantiated Income      | <input type="checkbox"/> Unreported Income | <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to Withhold Tax |
| <input type="checkbox"/> False Deductions | <input type="checkbox"/> Earned Income Credit        | <input type="checkbox"/> Narcotics Income  | <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to File Return  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Filings | <input type="checkbox"/> Public/Political Corruption | <input type="checkbox"/> Kickback          | <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to Pay Tax      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organized Crime  | <input type="checkbox"/> False/Altered Documents     | <input type="checkbox"/> Wagering/Gambling | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe in 5)   |

4. Unreported income and tax years

Fill in Tax Years and dollar amounts, if known (e.g., TY 2010- \$10,000)

TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. Comments (Briefly describe the facts of the alleged violation-Who/What/Where/When/How you learned about and obtained the information in this report. Attach another sheet, if needed.)


6. Additional information. Answer these questions, if possible. Otherwise, leave blank.

a. Are book/records available? (If available, do not send now. We will contact you, if they are needed for an investigation.)

☐ Yes ☐ No

b. Do you consider the taxpayer dangerous

☐ Yes ☐ No

c. Banks, Financial Institutions used by the taxpayer

Name			Name		
Street address			Street address		
City	State	ZIP code	City	State	ZIP code

**Section C – Information About Yourself**

(We never share this information with the person or business you are reporting.)

This information is not required to process your report, but would be helpful if we need to contact you for any additional information.

7a. Your name		b. Telephone number		c. Best time to call	
d. Street address		e. City		f. State	g. ZIP code

Print and send your completed form to: Internal Revenue Service

PO Box 3801  
Ogden, UT 84409



## CONSUMER COMPLAINT AGAINST A BUSINESS/CORPORATION

**Rob Bonta**  
Attorney General

**Collection and Use of Personal Information.** The Public Inquiry Unit in the Department of Justice collects the information requested on this form as authorized by Government Code Sections 11180, 11181, and 11182. The Public Inquiry Unit uses this information to review your complaint. In addition, any personal information collected by state agencies is subject to the limitations in the Information Practices Act and state policy. The Department of Justice's general privacy policy is available at <http://oag.ca.gov/privacy-policy>.

**Providing Personal Information.** You do not have to provide the personal information requested. If you do not wish to provide personal information, such as your name, home address, or home telephone number, you may remain anonymous. In that case, however, we may not be able to contact you or help resolve your complaint.

**Access to Your Information.** You may review the records maintained by the Public Inquiry Unit in the Department of Justice that contain your personal information, as permitted by the Information Practices Act. See below for contact information.

**Possible Disclosure of Personal Information.** In order to follow up on your complaint, we may need to share the information you give us with the party you complained about or with other government agencies.

The information you provide may also be disclosed in the following circumstances:

- With other persons or agencies where necessary to perform their legal duties, and their use of your information is compatible and complies with state law, such as for investigations or for licensing, certification, or regulatory purposes;
- To another government agency as required by state or federal law;
- For law enforcement purposes, including the investigation and prosecution of violations of federal, state or local laws.

**Contact Information.** For questions about a written comment or complaint that you submitted to the Public Inquiry Unit, please fill-out and submit our online form, available at:

<http://oag.ca.gov/contact/general-comment-question-or-complaint-form>

Please specify in the "Your Comments" section the specific Public Inquiry Unit record that you are seeking. Or you may mail your request to Analyst, Public Inquiry Unit, Office of the Attorney General, P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244-2550. In addition, if you are seeking records maintained by another Department of Justice program, you should contact that program directly.